



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/468,581	12/20/1999	TAKASHI MNAMI	200133-20007	3801
26021	7590	12/01/2004	EXAMINER	
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P. 500 S. GRAND AVENUE SUITE 1900 LOS ANGELES, CA 90071-2611			TRAN, HENRY N	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	2674

DATE MAILED: 12/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/468,581	MNAMI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	HENRY N TRAN	2674

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 August 2004.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 3-9, 13, 14, 17, 18 and 20-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 3-9, 13, 14, 17, 18 and 20-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 20 December 1999 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

This Office action is in response to the applicants' amendment received 8/17/04. The amendments to the claims have been entered. Claims 3-9, 13, 14, 17, 18, and 20-24 remain pending in this application. Applicants' remarks have been fully considered, with the results set forth as follows.

Claim Objections

1. Claim 18 is objected to because of the following informalities: the phrase "the display screen" is duplicated in lines 2 and 3. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 17, 18 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 17, which recites the limitations: "the supporting mechanism" and "the first display device" in lines 7 and 8. There is insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim.

Regarding claims 18 and 24, which are dependent upon the base claim 17, and are therefore indefinite by virtue of their dependency from the dependent claim 17.

For the purpose of this Office action, the examiner assumes that: the limitation "the supporting mechanism" is changed to --the supporting members--; and the limitation "the first

display device" is changed to --a first display device--. Applicant is required to affirm or reverse these assumptions in response to this Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
5. Claims 3, 9, 13, 17, 18, and 20-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Milner et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,339,410, hereinafter referred to as "Milner") in view of Gouko (U.S. Patent No. 6,222,507).

Milner teaches generally all, including, the first supporting member comprising the two arms 34 and 68 for connecting to both the second display device 30 and the second support member comprising supports 60, 70 and 72; as discussed in section 3 of the Final Office action mailed 11/03/03 (Paper No. 18); wherein, the above identified supporting members are detachably mounted on the outside of the back surface and a top outside surface of the housing of a first display device, which comprises display screen 42; and the supporting members are supported by the first display device. Gouko teaches a second display device 3 having a display screen smaller than that of the first display device 2 as discussed in section 3 of the Final Office action. Although Milner does teach the use of a supporting member comprising a roll-around stand 50 and a central support member 52 for supporting the displays for moving to any location; and Milner does not teach "a single arm" for directly connecting to both the second display device as claimed in the amended base claims 3, 13 and 17. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to discard the unneeded supporting

Art Unit: 2674

members 50 and 52, which is for rolling-around purpose; also, utilize the teachings of using a mother monitor 2 having a display screen 2a larger than that of an auxiliary display device 3 as taught by Gouko in the Milner device as for producing the claimed invention; wherein, the roll-around stand 50 and a central support member 52 are not needed; also “a single arm” instead of “the two arms 34 and 68” of the Milner device is used. The motivation for doing so was provided in the said Office action; also, the use of a single arm instead of the two arms would provide a simple connection, which is easily to modify. Claims 3,9-10, 13, 15 and 17-24 are therefore stand rejected.

6. Claims 4, 6 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Milner in view of Gouko, hereinafter referred to as “Milner-Gouko”, as applied to claims 3 and 13, and further in view of Crossland et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,720,781, hereinafter referred to as “Crossland”) as discussed in sections 7-10 of the Final Office action noted above.

7. Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Milner-Gouko in view of Crossland, hereinafter referred to as “Milner-Gouko-Crossland”, as applied to claim 4, and further in view of Register (U.S. Patent No. 5,590,021), as discussed in section 8 of the Final Office action.

8. Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over “Milner-Gouko-Crossland” as applied to claims 1, 4 and 6, and further in view of Fowler (U.S. Patent No. 6,302,612) as discussed in sections 12-14 of the Final Office action.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments filed 8/17/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive because of the rejection discussed in paragraph 4 above.

It is noted that the central support member, which is supporting pole 52, is used to attach with the roll-around stand 50 for the purpose of moving the display system around; when such a movement is not required, the roll-around supporting members 50 and 52 are not needed, and the main display device 42 is used to support the supporting mechanism.

As illustrated in figures 3 and 4 of the applicants' disclosure, it is noted that the supporting mechanism comprising a round tubular cylindrical bracket 7, which is detachably mountable on a side outside surface and a top surface using two fixing blocks 8 and 9, each having a locking member 12. The examiner has recognized that such a structural arrangement, which is incorporated in each of the independent claims, would overcome the rejection using the prior cited prior art.

Conclusion

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

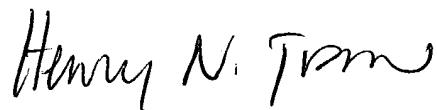
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HENRY N TRAN whose telephone number is 703-308-8410. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, RICHARD A HJERPE can be reached on 703-305-4709. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



HENRY N TRAN
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2674